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The King of complexity

Neptune Theatre portraying the secret life of William Lyon Mackenzie King **PAGE 9**



Big changes for 311 system

Communication.

Officials embarking on overhaul of municipal information line to improve wait times



STEPHANIE TAYLOR
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After a frustrating month of busy signals and long wait times, residents in Halifax could see an entirely new telephone system for 311 by this time next year, according to the city's director of operations.

Jane Fraser said \$740,000 in capital will be spent to replace the old phone program in hopes of better streamlining residents' calls and avoiding the "below service standards" seen in February, she told city councillors during Wednesday's budget deliberations.

"Unfortunately, it's a com-

Calls received

400,000

The average number of calls received by 311 every year

bination of the very unusual weather that we're having and the inability to get anything to melt, the volume of calls and people's frustration. Everybody's cranky," she said.

Old technology is one of the major challenges facing the call centre, Fraser said, explaining that the current system can only hold 50 calls in the queue, meaning the 51st caller would hear a busy signal.

That was a major concern for Coun. Linda Mosher, who said that from Jan. 1 to Feb. 25, 311 received 9,330 calls about sidewalk and street snow removal.

On Wednesday, Fraser said the call centre is fully

staffed with 32 agents, who are also on call as needed during busy seasons.

In fact, she said due to last month's series of storms, some employees spent the night at the 311 headquarters located in the Eric Spicer building in Dartmouth, which is stocked with inflatable mattresses and food, to be ready to answer calls first thing in the morning.

"If the system can only take 50 calls it doesn't matter how many agents that you have," she told councillors, adding the current infrastructure is "almost at its end."

Introducing a type of triage service is another improvement Fraser hopes to see in the system overhaul, which is currently at the assessment phase.

Councillors also asked for changes to the service's restart function, which erases unresolved complaints from a previous storm with every new weather event.



OH DANNY BOY

Halifax Mooseheads forward Danny Moynihan celebrates after scoring against the Bathurst Titan in QMJHL action at the Scotiabank Centre, Wednesday. The Mooseheads won 7-4. Story, page 21. MONA GHIZ/FOR METRO



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Accidents

Pedestrian collisions decline in January

There was a small decrease in the number of pedestrians being hit by vehicles in the first month of 2015, compared to the first month of 2014.

Police in Halifax released their January vehicle-pedestrian collision report on Wednesday and it shows there were 24 accidents, down from 27 in January 2014.

Of the 24 incidents, two resulted in people dying. Another three were moderately injured while 11 people suffered minor injuries.

In one of the fatal collisions, a 70-year-old man was struck by a transport truck on Mills Drive in Tantallon on Jan. 13.

The other death occurred when a van hit an elderly man walking on Wyse Road in Dartmouth on Jan. 9. The 81-year-old died in hospital several days later.

Of the pedestrians hit, 10 were in crosswalks, down from 22 in 2014. **METRO**



Cars stop for pedestrians at a marked crosswalk near the Halifax Shopping Centre. **METRO FILE**



Police look for a person of interest, related to a potential threat which forced the closure of the Mic Mac Mall on Tuesday. **ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Too soon to tell if mall threat a copycat: Police

Mic Mac Mall. Force still investigating motive for anonymous tip



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The recent threats against Mic Mac Mall came just weeks after a foiled shooting plan for another mall, but Halifax police can't say whether the incident could be the work of a copycat.

Deputy Chief Bill Moore of the Halifax Regional Police said officers are gathering evidence related to the Crime Stoppers tip they received about a threat to the Dartmouth mall, but likely won't

Quoted

"I would much rather be accused of over-responding and have nothing happen, than to under-respond and to have a tragedy occur."

Halifax Regional Police Deputy Chief Bill Moore

discover until the end of the investigation why the threat was made or if it was legitimate.

"We're then able to say (whether) this was ... done because it's a copycat. It really goes to the motivation," Moore said Wednesday.

Moore said it's hard to generalize why some people are inspired by real threats and violent incidents to carry out hoaxes, but does not want to put "too much out there" about copycat behaviour.

The whole reason Halifax police have stopped referring to the two people charged in the alleged Halifax Shopping Centre shooting plot uncovered in February is to take away their notoriety, Moore said.

Whether or not the threat ends up being legitimate, Moore said they always have to take a tip on face value.

"There was probably a time prior to Moncton ... where people would have said 'Ah, that's not going to happen,'"

Moore said. "But the reality is that there's a potential that it could."

Halifax police confirmed that one of the two men arrested Tuesday learned he was the subject of the tip after an officer making the arrest at a Halifax apartment accidentally left behind paperwork related to an anonymous Crime Stoppers tip.

Moore said the officer has been spoken to, and procedures will be changed to ensure there isn't a repeat.

The suspect was cleared of any wrongdoing when he was released, Moore said, and police are now investigating where the tip came from and the "motives as to why it was provided to us in the first place."

1 NEWS

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Dogs and their owners enjoy a walk along a path in Point Pleasant Park in Halifax in April 2014. METRO FILE

New park patrol pilot in the works

Budget. Coun. Mason thrilled about possibility of program's return



STEPHANIE TAYLOR
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One Halifax councillor is ecstatic that city staff are beginning to explore the idea of re-introducing park patrol.

Coun. Wayne Mason, who represents Peninsula South and downtown, said although he doesn't know many details, he was overjoyed to see a new pilot patrol program included in the city's 2015-16 parks and recreation budget, presented before council on Wednesday.

Mason explained that at one time the city offered park patrol at larger sites around HRM, but it was eliminated due to changes in municipal planning.

Several years ago, he said, support for re-introducing the

Sites

Coun. Mason believes Point Pleasant Park and Shubie Park in Dartmouth are would benefit from park patrol.

Analysis

Scotiabank Centre to get new seating

It's out with the old, in with the new for seating at Scotiabank Centre.

Denise Schofield, HRM's manager of regional recreation and culture, told city councillors Wednesday that after 36 years, the original orange arena seating in the former Metro Centre is to be replaced with spacious dark navy or black rows.

New seating will be installed the day after the Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo shows wraps up in July and will be completed in time for the Canadian Country Music Awards in September, she added.

program was shown after the Point Pleasant Park Advisory Committee conducted a survey that found the majority of park users were concerned about the lack of enforcement.

"When there is a conflict ... there's no one there to enforce the rules or mediate," Mason said Wednesday.

"You need to have a presence that's sustained and able to respond quickly if things arise. But a lot of it is about deterrence, having someone walking around with a park patrol jacket on and a ticket book. They might not hand out a lot of tickets, but there'll be a lot less complaints from the users."

Halifax councillor 'wins' award for wasting money

One Halifax-area councillor is the recipient of a national award, whether he likes it or not.

Coun. Brad Johns, who represents the area of Middle and Upper Sackville, was named as the municipal award winner in the 2015 Teddy Waste Awards by the Canadian Taxpayers Federation for buying a \$25,000 robotic Christmas tree.

According to a release from the federation, the 17th annual awards celebrate the "best in worst government waste."

The award comes in the shape of a pig and the federation's mascot, Porky the Waster Hater, was on hand as the winners — or losers — were announced Wednesday in Ottawa.

The federation said the money Johns spent on the 18-foot tree came from his \$94,000 discretionary funds, which they say normally go toward parks, playgrounds or area maintenance.

"The residents of Middle and Upper Sackville must be already awash in public amenities," the federation's federal director, Aaron Wu-



Canadian Taxpayers Federation Director Aaron Wudrick and pig mascot Porky the Waster Hater are seen behind the CTF awards, after the federation presented the 17th Annual Teddy Government Waste Award Winners during a news conference in Ottawa on Wednesday. FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

drick, reads in a statement.

"How else could a politician possibly arrive at the conclusion that the purchase of a giant robotic Christmas tree would be at the top of his constituents' wish list?"

Johns was unapologetic for purchasing the animatronic tree, telling regional council in January that it attracted

hundreds of families from as far away as Arichat for dozens of daily 15-minute shows over the Christmas season.

He said the overall goal of the tree was to raise \$2,500 in food and gift donations for Sackville Beacon House, and said it raised twice that amount.

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Afua Cooper speaks during a presentation on Black Halifax: Stories From Here at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic on Wednesday afternoon. **HALEY RYAN/METRO**

Black Halifax a 'labour of love'

Culture. A collection of videos, new website will help bring Nova Scotia's unique African-Canadian history to life



HALEY RYAN
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Years before Rosa Parks boarded a bus, Viola Desmond was kicked out of a New Glasgow movie theatre for sitting in the white section.

Before Muhammad Ali landed a punch, George Dixon of Africville became the first black world champion boxer of any weight class.

Black Halifax: Stories From Here is a new video project and website telling the stories of people, places and events significant to African-Nova Scotian history, including Davis, Dixon, Rocky Jones, William Hall and the 15 ships that left Halifax carrying hundreds of Black Loyalists to Sierra Leone in 1792.

"It was a labour of love doing this, working with the stories in an interesting and creative way," said Afua Cooper, one of the producers and an instructor at Dalhousie University, during a Wednesday event at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic.

The team worked with the Delmore Buddy Daye Learning Institute and had local actors and residents portray the historical figures in short monologues and poems, some of which were screened on Wednesday.

Francis Aderinwale, a visitor to the museum from Dublin, said that as a black man he was always aware of Britain's and America's histories of racism and slavery but it came as a "shock" to hear the same thing had happened in Canada.

"We really need this information to help us appreciate what our forefathers have gone through and the sacrifice they rendered to bring us to this level we are today to walk free on the streets," he said after the event.

Valerie Mason-John, producer and author, said inspir-

African-N.S. history

A public launch will take place at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic at 6 p.m. Thursday and the Black Cultural Centre in Cherry Brook on Sunday at 3 p.m.

ation came from Vancouver's Black Strathcona project, for which the community also made a series of videos on their important figures. Mason-John also built off last year's experience being a poet in residence at the Maritime Museum alongside Cooper and El Jones.

Both Cooper and Mason-John said a goal of the project was to make the videos available to anyone in order to raise awareness in Nova Scotia and around the world that Canada's history is one that has been intertwined with slavery, racism and perseverance for hundreds of years.

"It's been invisible. Sometimes it's been written out of history and sometimes it just hasn't been taught," Mason-John said.

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LE CHÂTEAU OUTLET

Prostitution more noticeable on Sydney street: Councillor

Police address concerns. Business owners along Charlotte Street say sex-trade workers are driving their customers away

The world's oldest profession is starting to have a negative impact on some businesses along Charlotte Street, according to Sydney Coun. Eldon MacDonald.

While it is no secret prostitution occurs, MacDonald said it's more prevalent now than it has been, happening at all hours of the day and night.

"Speaking with some of the business owners in the downtown development association, it seems there's more of them (prostitutes), which is causing it to happen more frequently," he said on Tuesday.

MacDonald has handled complaints about prostitution since he was first elected as District 5 councillor in the 2012 municipal election.

Once an issue specific to the spring and summer months, police say it now appears prostitutes are walking the street year-round.

Cape Breton Regional Police Chief Peter McIsaac addressed the concern following the Board of Police Commissioners meeting Tuesday.

He said charges have been laid against female

The law

The federal government was forced to rewrite laws involving prostitution after the Supreme Court of Canada struck down that section of the Criminal Code in December 2013.

- The Harper government's new law prohibits the advertisement of sexual services and makes the purchase of sex — not the sale — illegal, according to the federal Justice Department.

prostitutes in "three or four" instances over the past several months.

"We've been dealing with that for the last year. It's unfortunate it's in the community. It's not something new to us, it's not something we see every day though," McIsaac said.

In past years, prostitution may have been "sporadic" in the CBRM, said McIsaac.

There are resources and a plan in place to deal with it, he added. What exactly that plan involves, he didn't say.

"We need to have the evidence to move forward (on prostitution cases) and it's not easy to get sometimes," he said.

"However, we're on top of it and the individuals engaged in this behaviour know we're on top of it."

MacDonald said it might



Charlotte Street in Sydney, where business owners and a local councillor say prostitution has become "more prevalent." Coun. Eldon MacDonald is suggesting increased police patrols as one solution. CAPE BRETON POST

Quoted

"If we have enough evidence, we're certainly going to lay charges in every instance that we can, because we can't have this kind of activity happening on the main street of our municipality." Cape Breton Regional Police Chief Peter McIsaac

mean more police patrolling downtown Sydney.

"If it takes more patrols, whether it's more frequent or more bodies, then maybe that's what we have to look at." CAPE BRETON POST

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Mick Foley's always had a 'soft spot' for Nova Scotia

Interview. Wrestling legend to play commissioner in the ring in Halifax Thursday night



**PHILIP
CROUCHER**
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When the Halifax independent wrestling promotion Wrestlecentre approached Mick Foley about coming to town to take part in their one-year anniversary show, the hardcore legend was impressed.

He said the presentation was professional and they explained exactly what they wanted and how he would be used.

Foley, a WWE hall-of-famer and one of the most recognizable wrestlers of

Event details

Wrestlecentre's one-year anniversary show featuring the likes of Foley, Christopher Daniels and Colt Cabana goes Thursday at 8 p.m., with tickets available through ticketpro.ca for \$25.



Mick Foley will be in Halifax tonight performing at a local independent wrestling show. CONTRIBUTED

all time, said yes to Wrestlecentre and will be in the squared circle Thursday night for their show at the Halifax Forum Multipurpose Centre.

But Foley may have given the green light to coming here even if that presentation wasn't so good. That's because Foley — who also went by Mankind, Dude Love and Cactus Jack in the ring — has a special place

in his heart for Nova Scotia, dating back to when he was a young boy.

"I always had a soft spot for Nova Scotia since I went camping there when I was three or four," he said by phone this week from his home in New York.

"I have no idea where the actual campground was but I remember taking the ferry from Maine and always wanting to go back, which I

didn't get to do until 1996."

Foley, who travelled the world as a main-event wrestler — most notably during a run in WWE that saw him reach the level of superstar when he won the heavyweight championship title — won't actually be wrestling in Halifax.

Foley turns 50 in June and has retired as an in-ring performer, but he still enjoys being part of the show.

WWE

Quick hits with Foley

One of the most famous images of you is from the time when the Undertaker threw you off the Hell in the Cell cage. What was going through your mind when that happened?

My idea to start the match on top of the cell wasn't a wise one. I just thought it was probably the dumbest thing I've ever come up with. I had no idea people would still be talking about it 17 years later.

Who is your favourite wrestler to watch right now in WWE?

I really enjoy Dolph Ziggler, Daniel Bryan. I like watching Dean Ambrose. I love the promos Bray Wyatt cuts. So I like a cross-section of the all-around great athletic wrestlers and the psychologically gifted ones.

What match are you most looking forward to from Wrestlemania 31?

I want to see how the main event unfolds. The crowd has the potential to play such a major role in it.

At Wrestlecentre he'll play the role of "commissioner," an act he did so well in the latter stages of his career in WWE.

"It's a more formal role," he said with a chuckle. "If they really enjoyed that era when I was WWE commissioner, they can feel that a little bit again (on Thursday)."

Besides wrestling, Foley keeps busy these days as a best-selling children's book author (yes, kids). He also

dabbles in some acting and does live stage shows across the United States.

But wrestling remains a No. 1 love and it's a product he still very much enjoys watching and, when he can, being a part of.

"It's going through a major boom," he said of the wrestling industry overall. "I see that not only in WWE, but even more so in the independent promotions that I work for. I think wrestling is going really strong."

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Space, sci-fi coming up for symphony

Symphony Nova Scotia will be taking audiences to Middle Earth, space, the zoo and on stage with Freddie Mercury next season.

On Wednesday, the symphony launched its 2015-16 schedule, which is set to begin with hip-hop star Buck 65 appearing in two performances on Oct. 2 and 3.

Canadian artists will continue to appear on the orchestra's stage next year, like Rich Aucoin on Oct. 23 and 24, Ben Caplan on Nov. 20, Dan Mangan on Jan. 22 and 23, and Meaghan Smith

on April 22.

There will be a Sci-Fi Symphony Hal-Con event Oct. 31 and Nov. 1 hosted by actor John Rhys-Davies, with themes from Star Trek, Star Wars, Lord of the Rings, Spider-Man and Game of Thrones.

The music of Queen will be played by the symphony alongside the Jeans 'n Classics band and the Soundtrax choir on Feb. 12, 13 and 14.

A free family concert at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic will take place Feb. 21 and feature a zoo of musical sounds, such as

lions and elephants.

Space: The Final Frontier will be April 3, featuring everything from great Romantic works to soundtracks and video games to bring the galaxy to Halifax.

METRO

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Rexy! offers glimpse into life of longest-serving prime minister

Theatre. Play portrays life of William Lyon Mackenzie King behind closed doors



ALY THOMSON
halifax@metronews.ca

His portrait is prominently displayed on the \$50 bill, but what do you really know of William Lyon Mackenzie King?

Do you know what his voice sounded like, or how tall he was? Did you know his nickname was Rexy?

"He was a quiet man, I think a bit of a loner," said actor Michael Hanrahan, who portrays King in Neptune Theatre's production of *Rexy!*

The play, which opens on Friday and runs until March 22, offers a window into the life and mind of Canada's longest-

serving prime minister.

Known as Rexy to his friends, King was a successful leader — a cunning and serious politician.

But behind closed doors, King was a spiritual man who consorted with prostitutes and had frequent conversations with his dead relatives.

"It's a portrait of very complex man that's surprisingly unknown in Canada," said Hanrahan, after a rehearsal at Neptune.

"There's many layers to this man. His pride, his determination, his silliness, his loneliness — all those things are at play here."

King, who died in 1950, was Canada's 10th prime minister and was at the helm of the country during the Second World War. At the beginning of the war, he faced opposition from French-Canadians over conscription, but he managed to delay implementing con-



Michael Hanrahan as Mackenzie King and John Koensgen as Colonel Ralston in a scene from Neptune Theatre's production of *Rexy!* COURTESY TIMOTHY RICHARD

scription and kept French and English Canada unified.

"I think it's an extraordinary thing that most Canadians don't seem to know is that he really did save the country," said Hanrahan, who's on stage

for almost the entire play.

"If he had been the British puppet, they would have conscripted, Quebec would have revolted, and that separation would have happened permanently."

Hanrahan's baritone voice bellows in an airy rehearsal space at Neptune Theatre.

He drops to his knees in the centre of the stage, clutching his fists as a woman's voice suddenly rings out.

"Mom," he calls out, speaking to the ghost of King's mother. "I feel so alone. No living soul to hold me, to comfort and strengthen me."

His mother, played by Martha Irving, later calls out: "You're a Mackenzie, my son. Be strong."

Rexy! also features appearances from other prominent Second World War figures, including Winston Churchill played by Jeremy Webb, Lester B. Pearson, played by John Koensgen and Franklin D. Roosevelt, played by Victor Young.

Director Marti Maraden said the play's writer Allan Stratton did take certain liberties with things like historical timelines, but the "basic bones" of King's life remain intact.

"I think people will have come away knowing more about who we are now as a country, based on what happened during such a critical time," said Maraden.

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ON NOW!

Quebec MNA's ad removed from website that extols violence against women

A Quebec Liberal member of the legislature should not have advertised on an Islamic community centre website that includes texts extolling violence against women, Premier Philippe Couillard said Wednesday.

A photo of Marc Tanguay, the logo of the national assembly and his contact information appeared on the website of the FATH community centre.

Couillard called for the ad to be withdrawn, saying public funds should not have been used.

"It's not a question of freedom of expression," he said.

But the Quebec premier said public funds should not be used to help spread such opinions.

Couillard suggested Tan-

guay may not have been aware of the hateful comments when the ad was placed. Tanguay removed the ad after the premier's remarks.

The Montreal-area Muslim community centre describes itself as a non-profit association whose services include the teaching of the Qur'an and language courses for children and adults. Its virtual library includes books that encourage violence against women.

One book advises that if a wife does not say her prayers or refuses to obey her husband's orders, he should take her to task and even "go as far as to strike the woman, although it should not be painful."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Freedom and liberty worth some risk, Snowden says

Terrorism is "an extraordinarily rare natural disaster" and should not be used as an excuse by government to pass laws that limit our rights and freedoms, former U.S. National Security Agency (NSA) contractor Edward Snowden said Wednesday.

Snowden made the comments through video link at the Toronto unveiling of the Snowden Archive — an online database of hundreds of classified U.S. government documents he leaked to the media in 2013. The archive is a joint project between Canadian Journalists for Free Expression and the Politics of Surveillance Project at the Faculty of Information at the University of Toronto.

Snowden, who remains exiled in Russia since leaking the classified documents about the NSA's surveillance programs, has often spoken pub-



Edward Snowden THE CANADIAN PRESS

licly against over-reaching laws passed in many countries in the wake of terrorist attacks.

Asked to comment on Ottawa's anti-terrorism bill, Snowden said it was "an emulation of the American Patriot Act."

"No matter what we do, no matter what laws we pass, we cannot throw away all of our rights, all of our liberties ... because we're afraid of rare instances of criminal activity."

Snowden said freedom and liberty are worth some level of risk. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pipeline

U.S. Senate fails to override Obama's Keystone veto

The U.S. Senate on Wednesday failed to override President Barack Obama's veto of a bill to construct the privately funded Canadian Keystone XL pipeline. The 62-37 vote is expected to be one of many veto showdowns between Republicans, who control Congress, and Obama in his final term.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Survey

Morale at Veterans Affairs plunging

The most recent survey of federal employees shows Veterans Affairs Canada is an increasingly unhappy place, with plunging morale and a frazzled workforce. The evaluation, published by Statistics Canada for the federal Treasury Board, shows that the number of staff who say the quality of their work has suffered has more than doubled since 2008. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Ontario town suing U.S. company over guardrails

A guardrail with an ET Plus end unit. Authorities across Canada are awaiting test results from the U.S. before deciding what to do about thousands of the safety devices, which could cause guardrails to rip through cars and motorists instead of protecting them in crashes. Several provinces have stopped installing the units, which would cost tens of millions of dollars to remove, while the town of Stratford, Ont., has launched a \$500-million class action against the manufacturer. The lawsuit, filed in Ontario Superior Court, alleges Trinity Industries secretly made unauthorized changes to the ET Plus about 10 years ago and failed to warn anyone about "serious failures."

PHOTO: COURTESY TRINITY INDUSTRIES
TEXT: THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tory sentencing initiative a political move, critics say

New legislation. 'A life sentence in Canada will henceforth mean exactly that — a sentence for life,' said PM Stephen Harper

The Conservative government's latest tough-on-crime initiative to make life sentence a sentence for life without parole appears to be aimed at scoring political points rather than protecting the public, some critics and legal experts said Wednesday.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper told a Toronto crowd his government will introduce new legislation next week to ensure that what he called the country's "most dangerous violent offenders" will not be allowed back on the streets.

The new bill will "ensure

that for the most heinous offenders and the most horrific crimes, a life sentence in Canada will henceforth mean exactly that — a sentence for life," Harper announced in front of a crowd that included families of murder victims.

The legislation would apply to those convicted of first-degree murder involving: the killing of police officers or correctional officers; terrorism; kidnapping or sexual assault; and crimes "of a particularly brutal nature." It would also apply to those who commit high treason, an offence that involves attempting to harm or kill the Queen, taking arms against Canada or helping an enemy at war with Canada.

While hesitant to judge the proposed changes until the bill is tabled, some critics and legal experts said the announcement raises several red flags.

"We already have a system

In detail

Currently, those who are convicted of first-degree murder face an automatic sentence of life in prison with no chance of parole for 25 years.

- According to the latest Correctional Service of Canada data on recidivism available, 658 convicted murderers were released on full parole between January 1975 and the end of March 1990. Of those, five were convicted of committing a second murder — three of first-degree and two of second.

that recognizes that the Paul Bernardos and the Picktons of the world should never be released," Liberal Leader Justin

Trudeau said in Vancouver.

"I think a lot of this is campaigning on fear, which (Harper) is extremely good at, but I think we can all agree that bad criminals should not be released and we have to make sure that we're getting that balance right," he said.

"Most dangerous killers are already denied parole and held for life," NDP justice critic François Boivin said in a statement.

"Sentencing reform should be focused on improving public safety, not on scoring political points," she said.

Benjamin Berger, a criminal-law expert at York University's Osgoode Hall law school, said the announcement comes across as "political sleight of hand."

"As things currently stand, the community is protected by the individualized judgments of a parole board," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MPs to see Parliament Hill shooter's video

After weeks of speculation, members of Parliament will get a chance Friday to see the video Michael Zehaf Bibeau made last October before he killed a Canadian soldier and stormed Parliament Hill.

RCMP Commissioner Bob Paulson will use an open meeting of the House of Commons public-safety com-

mittee to provide a "detailed update" of the investigation into Zehaf Bibeau's deadly attack on Cpl. Nathan Cirillo, said a source familiar with the matter.

The source, who wasn't authorized to discuss the issue publicly and therefore spoke on condition of anonymity, confirmed the video would be

shown to the committee.

Pressure has been mounting on the RCMP — and the Conservative government — to release the video to give people a first-hand glimpse into Zehaf Bibeau's state of mind on the eve of his assault.

Last month, the public-safety committee, while affirming the RCMP's oper-

ational independence, invited Paulson to appear at his earliest convenience to display and discuss the video.

Asked about the matter on Wednesday, Prime Minister Stephen Harper said it's up to the RCMP whether to release the video, since it's part of an ongoing police investigation.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

U.S. attempted to deport man shot by L.A. police

California. No country would claim homeless man with mental illness, says U.S. Immigration

A homeless foreigner shot to death by Los Angeles police was in the country illegally after serving time for a bank robbery but couldn't be deported because no country would take him, U.S. immigration authorities said Wednesday.

France issued travel documents for a man identified as Charley Saturmin Robinet but rescinded them in June 2013 after determining it was an assumed name and the man was really from Cameroon, said U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) spokeswoman Virginia Kice in a statement.

ICE, which had issued a deportation order in April 2013, said Cameroon consular officials failed to respond to repeated requests for travel

documents. Cameroonian officials could not immediately be reached to comment.

The man, known as "Africa" in the rundown Los Angeles area of Skid Row, was shot to death Sunday. The confrontation that led to his death was recorded on a bystander's cellphone and viewed millions of times online. Authorities said the man tried to grab a rookie police officer's gun, prompting three other officers to shoot him.

Like many people on Skid Row, the man suffered from mental illness and his background was murky. He told U.S. authorities he was from Cameroon and gave a different name — Keunang — after France rejected him, according to two U.S. officials who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The man was in immigration custody in September 2013 when a federal judge in California ordered him to a halfway house. The man had no place to stay and no permanent address.



This February 2000 photo shows a man, mistakenly identified by the assumed name of Charley Saturmin Robinet, who was killed by L.A. police on Sunday.

VENTURA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

He had served roughly 13 years in prison and spent six months in the halfway house before he was released in May 2014, said Ed Ross, a spokes-

man for the Bureau of Prisons.

Kice said the man regularly reported to immigration officials as required by terms of his release. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Ferguson. Report blasts police for discrimination

The Justice Department cleared on Wednesday a white former Ferguson, Mo., police officer in the fatal shooting of an unarmed black 18-year-old — but also issued a scathing report calling for sweeping changes in city law-enforcement practices it called discriminatory and unconstitutional.

It found that the shooting occurred in an environment of systematic mistreatment of blacks, in which officials swapped racist emails and jokes without punishment and black residents were disproportionately stopped, searched, fined

for petty offences and subjected to excessive force.

Officials announced 26 recommendations, including training officers in how to de-escalate confrontations and banning the use of ticketing and arrest quotas.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Changes

Ferguson no longer issues failure-to-appear warrants and has rescinded warrants for nearly 600 defendants.

Gay-marriage decision

Mobile, Ala., stops issuing marriage licences of all kinds

The probate office in one of Alabama's biggest counties said Wednesday it will quit issuing marriage licences to anyone, after the Alabama Supreme Court ruled the state's

ban on same-sex marriage is legal despite a federal court's decision to the contrary.

The all-Republican Supreme Court ordered Alabama's 68 probate judges Tuesday to stop issuing marriage licences to gay couples. The probate court in Mobile said Wednesday it would quit issuing marriage licences to anyone while reviewing the decision. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



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Coal mine explosion kills at least 24 in eastern Ukraine

Donetsk. Seven bodies were loaded onto a truck late Wednesday

Rebel officials said the accident was caused by the ever-present danger of methane gas, rather than artillery fire.

A rebel-held city scarred by months of conflict in eastern Ukraine suffered more tragedy Wednesday when a methane gas explosion in a coal mine killed at least 24 workers and left nine missing.

As rescue efforts stretched past sundown, separatist authorities were accused by Ukraine's government of failing to do enough to save the lives of the miners.

The blast occurred before dawn more than 1,000 metres underground at the Zasyadko mine in the city of Donetsk in the coal-rich Donbass region. Nearly a year of bitter fighting by pro-Moscow rebels and Ukrainian troops in the east has killed more than 6,000 people.

There were contradictory accounts of the toll of dead and missing by the rival authorities. The rebel government that controls Donetsk was slow to divulge information, while a senior official in the capital of Kyiv was swift to give a death toll of 32, only to retract it several hours later.

The blast occurred as 230 workers were in the mine, and nearly 200 of them were quickly evacuated, but uncertainty lingered throughout the day about dozens of others.

Rebel officials insisted into the afternoon that only one person had died. But a slightly wounded miner who gave his name only as Sergei told The Associated Press that he saw five bodies being pulled out.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Ukrainian coal miners load the bodies of colleagues killed in Wednesday morning's explosion at Zasyadko mine in Donetsk, Ukraine. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Boston. Tsarnaev carried out bombing: Defence

The question, for all practical purposes, is no longer whether Dzhokhar Tsarnaev took part in the Boston Marathon bombing. It's whether he deserves to die for it.

In a startling opening statement at the nation's biggest terrorism trial in nearly 20 years, Tsarnaev's own lawyer told a jury that the 21-year-old former college student committed the crime.

"It was him," said defence attorney Judy Clarke, one of the nation's foremost death-penalty specialists.

But in a strategy aimed at saving Tsarnaev from a death sentence, she argued that he had fallen under the malevolent influence of his now-dead

older brother, Tamerlan.

"The evidence will not establish and we will not argue that Tamerlan put a gun to Dzhokhar's head or that he forced him to join in the plan," Clarke said, "but you will hear evidence about the kind of influence that this older brother had."

Three people were killed and more than 260 hurt when two shrapnel-packed pressure-cooker bombs exploded near the finish line on April 15, 2013. Tsarnaev, then 19, was accused of carrying out the attacks with 26-year-old Tamerlan, who was killed in a shootout and getaway attempt days later.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Boston Marathon bombing survivor Marc Fucarile, centre, and his wife Jennifer, left, walk past protester Jose Briceno, right, as they leave federal court, Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nuclear deal

Kerry rebuts Israeli PM's criticism

U.S. officials sought Wednesday to dampen expectations of a substantial nuclear deal with Iran by the March deadline while working to move past political dust kicked up by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's criticism of a possible agreement. U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said Washington was aware of the nuclear danger Iran poses and will endorse only an agreement that crimps Tehran's ability to make atomic arms.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Libya

Italian ships rescues migrants

In dramatic sea rescues north of Libya, a flotilla of ships saved more than 1,000 migrants and refugees, while 10 migrants perished in the southern Mediterranean, Italian officials said Wednesday. Rescue vessels, including from Italy's coast guard and navy, and three cargo ships saved 941 people in seven separate operations that began Tuesday, Italy's coast guard said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

McDonald's. Antibiotic and hormone-free fare on menu

McDonald's says it plans to start using chicken raised without antibiotics commonly used in humans, and milk from cows that are not treated with an artificial growth hormone.

The company says the chicken change will take place within the next two years. It says suppliers will still be able to use a type of antibiotic called ionophores that keep chickens healthy and aren't used in humans. The milk change will take place later this year.

Chipotle and Panera already say they serve chicken raised without antibiotics, but the announcement by

Image

McDonald's Corp. is struggling to transform its image amid intensifying competition from smaller rivals positioning themselves as more wholesome alternatives. It saw customer visits to U.S. stores decline two years in a row.

McDonald's is notable because of its size; the company has more than 14,000 U.S. locations. Chipotle has nearly 1,800 locations, while Panera has almost 1,900 locations.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Uber. Ride-hailing service buys mapping specialist

Uber Technologies is buying digital mapping specialist deCarta in a deal that may help the rapidly growing ride-hailing service lessen its dependence on navigation services from Google and Apple, a pair of potential rivals.

Although deCarta isn't as well-known as Google Maps, its technology is extensively used by consumers. The OnStar system built into cars made by General Motors Co. relies on deCarta, as do smartphone makers Samsung Elec-

tronics and BlackBerry Inc.

The acquisition will provide Uber's drivers with another way to find passengers summoning rides on the company's mobile app and deliver them to their destinations more quickly.

The deCarta deal comes a month after an unconfirmed report that Google Inc. is planning a rival ride-hailing service that would draw upon the driverless cars that the company has been building and testing. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

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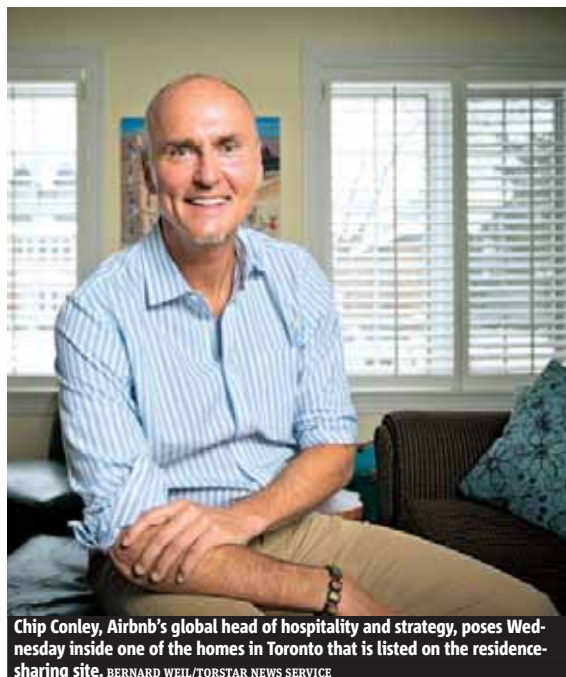
TSX
15,082.84 (-51.01)

OIL
\$51.53 US (+\$1.01)

Natural gas: \$2.769 US (+5.7¢)
Dow Jones: 18,096.90 (-106.47)

GOLD
\$1,200.90 US (-\$3.50)

Airbnb sees enough room, hotels don't share the view



Chip Conley, Airbnb's global head of hospitality and strategy, poses Wednesday inside one of the homes in Toronto that is listed on the residence-sharing site. BERNARD WEIL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Sharing economy.

Airbnb has run into stiff opposition in some jurisdictions, including New York

Chip Conley believes Airbnb, a fast-growing company that links homeowners with travellers seeking accommodation, is not in direct competition with traditional hotels.

"There is room for both of them," said Conley, who is head of global hospitality and strategy for Airbnb, during a visit to Toronto on Wednesday.

Conley, 54, who joined Airbnb in 2013, says he understands both Airbnb and the hotel business. He was the founder of the Joie de Vivre boutique hotel chain and still owns 18 hotels in California and New York.

"The message that I've been saying to the hotel industry is that 'this is not an either-

or,' " Conley said. "I think we can coexist."

But Terry Mundell, president and CEO of the Greater Toronto Hotel Association, disputes such a suggestion.

"The issue is not about either-or," he said. "This is an issue about paying and remitting commercial taxes the same as any other commercial enterprise."

A City of Toronto official says he has not received any complaints about Airbnb.

"At this time we are not considering regulating it," said Mark Sraga, the city's director of investigations, in an email. "Toronto's zoning bylaw does not restrict renting out rooms."

Conley insisted Airbnb is not evading taxes, noting Airbnb is paying occupancy or hotel taxes where required, including in cities such as Amsterdam, San Francisco and Chicago.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Banking

BoC stands pat on key interest rate

The Bank of Canada maintained its key interest rate at 0.75 per cent Wednesday as it credited global economic conditions and its January cut for helping the country weather the oil slump. The bank's policy announcement also contained a slightly sunnier outlook, leaving many analysts with the impression there won't be any other reductions soon. THE CANADIAN PRESS

No-poaching. Judge OK with settlement

A U.S. federal judge has tentatively approved a \$415 million US settlement in a major class action lawsuit by Silicon Valley workers who accused Apple Inc., Google Inc. and other tech companies of making an illegal agreement not to hire each other's employees.

Judge Lucy Koh had re-

jected an earlier settlement offer, saying it didn't offer enough compensation to about 64,000 workers affected by the case. She cited evidence of a corporate conspiracy to make it difficult for tech workers to negotiate better jobs at rival companies.

Koh said she was satisfied

this week after the companies increased their earlier offer of \$324.5 million.

She invited final comments on the deal before she grants final approval at a hearing on June 9.

The lawsuit also included Intel Corp. and Adobe Systems Inc. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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VOICES

BIGGER IS BETTER, BUT SMALLER IS CHEAPER

Micro condos are being hyped as the next great thing in urban living. But since when did living in a shoebox become the property-owning dream?



MELISSA
DUNNE
readers@metronews.ca

In the comedy *Wanderlust*, Paul Rudd and Jennifer Aniston get sweet-talked into buying an, ahem, micro-loft in Manhattan. At the time (the halcyon days of 2012), I laughed and laughed. Oh, New Yorkers living in their tiny boxes in the sky.

I'm not laughing now. Flash forward to early 2015 and micro condos have become one of the only serious options for some city-dwelling Canadians, like myself. With the average price of detached homes in both Vancouver and Toronto soaring past the \$1-million mark, the dream of home ownership is now out of many average people's grasp.

Micro condos, realtor-speak for a condo unit that runs between 225 and 400 square feet, suddenly seem appealing. The spaces tend to attract investors looking to rent them out, rich people looking for a pied-à-terre, and not-so-rich people looking to finally get on the property ladder.

A few years ago I would have said I would never buy a micro condo. Now, I say, "Never say never." The Manhattanization of the city I call home means even the average price of a condo apartment in the 416 was an eye-watering \$369,655 last month, according to the Toronto Real Estate Board.



Murphy beds used to be almost synonymous with dingy flats. But thanks to the marketing of micro condos, space-saving features are being touted as the hip new way to do city living. PHOTO BY SPENCER PLATT/GETTY IMAGES

You can buy in for less if you're willing to downsize dramatically. Out in the Vancouver suburb of Surrey, a developer recently garnered media attention by reportedly offering units starting at \$93,900. The catch? The suites started at 316 square feet. Another project in the heart of Toronto got my attention with its clever features, like a dish-

washer in a drawer, to maximize space. The location is great and news reports say prices start at \$249,999 for 300 square feet.

Despite the smaller price tag, I do have some reservations.

In the ads for these minuscule units, condo living looks so hip and fun. But in reality the big banks are said to be wary of giving mortgages

for this unproven new trend. And the old rental apartment I currently share with my common-law partner is more than double the size of a micro condo. I worry we'd find living in a unit with a Murphy bed would seriously test our patience with each other.

So I, along with many other Millennials looking to buy their first place, am patiently waiting for the

Micro condos at a glance

- For many young, hip urbanites, the appeal of micro condos is that they are highly polished, modern spaces that come with innovative and trendy space-saving amenities.
- The concept of micro condos may be new to Canada, but in densely populated cities such as Paris, Tokyo and Hong Kong, they have been a way of life for generations.
- There are nearly 3,000 micro condo units under construction in Toronto that are slated to be completed this year.
- In Vancouver, city bylaws dictate that condo units can be no smaller than 398 square feet, but one development is proposing "nanosuites" that would measure 200 square feet.

real estate bubble to finally burst. If that doesn't happen soon, perhaps I'll end up like those New Yorkers I used to mock smugly, and buy my very own tiny box in the sky.

Melissa Dunne is a freelance writer based in Toronto.

Metro asked those in the know: What's your take on micro condos?

Realtor



The banks are not lending on these units, so right now we can't really tell if they are going to take off or not. Micros offer living space in the very good locations ... I've seen the average size of a condo come down significantly in the last 20 years, and I think this will become a trend that lasts. Once the banks gain confidence in micro condos, first-time buyers will see them as viable options. Don't forget, the banks were skeptical about lending on condos when they first made an appearance 50 years ago, and look at them now!

Sandra Rinomato, broker/owner of Sandra Rinomato Realty, a brokerage in Toronto.

Planner



The uptake of micro condos will be successful only in exceptionally strong markets — Vancouver, Toronto, San Francisco, Boston, N.Y.C., London. From a planner's perspective, if designed thoughtfully and close to local social life and shops, these are an affordable, funky option for 20-something singles and couples. Not so for most households with kids. Over time, the real estate market will decide whether these will hold their value.

Linda Allen, community planner and managing partner at CitySpaces in Vancouver.

Micro condo dweller



Absolutely I'd buy a micro condo. It works for my lifestyle right now. In many cases there will be many people transitioning to this lifestyle ... I don't have a car ... There are four coffee shops right outside my door that aren't Starbucks. Your neighbourhood becomes your living room ... Canada as a country will become more urbanized and we'll have to accommodate that. People will be living smaller. I think there definitely is a future in micro condos.

Samuel Baron has been renting a 248-square-foot micro suite in Vancouver for just over two years.

Researcher



Small units play a big role in today's condo market. For buyers and renters, they provide an option to save on costs. For investors, they offer above-average yields. For developers, they allow projects to easier achieve pre-construction sales, facilitating new development. Micro units certainly will be needed in the future to accommodate growth (in Toronto) and maintain affordability, but the next couple years may see a case of too much, too soon. Thousands of units under 500 square feet will be completed, while population growth for younger adults is starting slow. Adding to this is their difficulty in arranging mortgage financing."

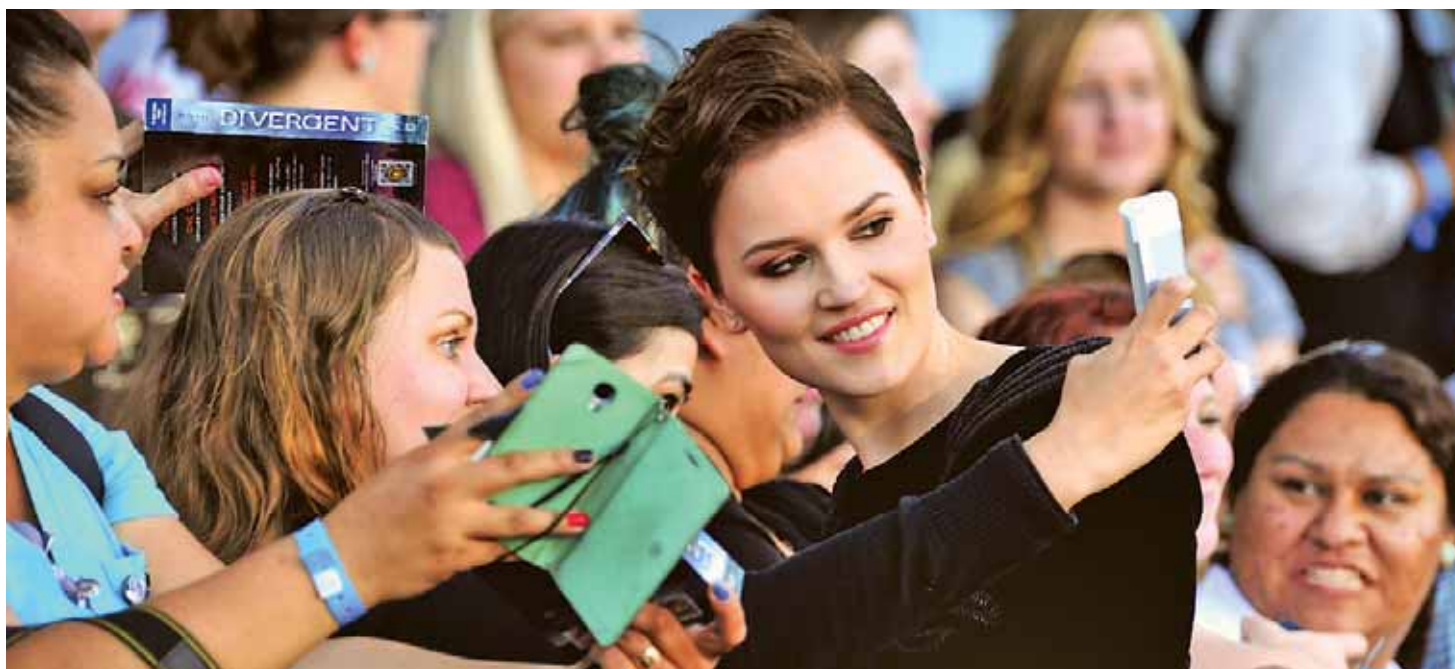
Shaun Hildebrand, senior vice president at condo research firm Urbanation.

Investment specialist



I doubt it's a passing fad. It's simply what people can afford. There is a huge market for tiny condos because many people cannot afford larger. This is Toronto's weird form of "affordable" housing. It's not likely to get any better. But it does have the effect of high turnover of those units because as people's household size increases (marriage, babies, etc.), they have a hard time staying there.

John Andrew, director of Queen's University's Executive Seminars on Corporate and Investment Real Estate in Kingston, Ont.



Author of the Divergent trilogy, Veronica Roth, is writing a new book in "the vein of Star Wars." GETTY IMAGES

More from Roth on the way

Books. The author of the hugely successful Divergent trilogy is working on new series

Veronica Roth fans can start the countdown.

The Divergent author is set to write a new two-book series, HarperCollins Children's Books told The Associated Press. Currently, the books are untitled, with the first one expected in 2017 and the next in 2018.

Roth and her publisher offered few specifics, beyond saying the series is in the vein of Star Wars and will tell of a boy's "unlikely alliance" with an enemy.

"Both desperate to escape their oppressive lives, they help

each other attain what they most desire: for one, redemption, and the other, revenge," the publisher announced.

In a recent email to the AP, Roth wrote that the idea "started with a character. All the other elements — setting, world, even a substantial portion of the plot — came after." She added that while she had a "pretty detailed" outline for the new series, she was still in the early stages of writing.

"That's why I'm being so vague," she explained.

Divergent, along with Suzanne Collins' The Hunger Games and John Green's books helped perpetuate the strong growth of young adult novels.

When it was released last year, the first Divergent movie, quickly earned more than \$100 million at the box office.

Three more movies are planned, starting with the March 20 release of Insurgent.

A Chicago resident, the 26-year-old Roth was still in college when she began Divergent, writing it in her pyjamas while on winter break from Northwestern University. She is now one of the world's most popular authors.

"I think I'd have to be a robot not to occasionally worry about expectations!" she wrote to the AP. "But mostly I try to trust my instincts. It helps that I'm really in love with this project — that makes it a joy to work on."

"I've been really taking my time with it," she said of the new series. "I've written huge sections a certain way only to cut them and start again. I've stepped away for a while, to work on other things, and then

Divergent



- **The book.** Divergent, a Dystopian trilogy, was completed in 2013 and sold more than 30-million copies.
- **The movie.** The first Divergent film, starring Shailene Woodley, came out a year ago.

come back when I have better perspective. I've been more patient with myself and with the story. I've expanded my collec-

tion of comfortable pants and snack foods. It's all working quite well so far."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Weeknights at 6 Kat counts down the HOTTEST songs of the day

TOP SIX@6

- 6 Nick Jonas Chains
- 5 Ellie Goulding Love Me Like You Do
- 4 Pitbull ft Ne-Yo Time Of Our Lives
- 3 Rihanna ft Kanye West & Paul McCartney FourFiveSeconds
- 2 Ed Sheeran Thinking Out Loud
- 1 Taylor Swift Style

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2 SCENE



Karrueche Tran dumped Chris Brown on Twitter after finding out he has a nine-month-old daughter. ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

Brown's baby drama too much for girlfriend

Surprise! Embattled singer Chris Brown is a dad. TMZ reports that Brown is the father to a nine-month-old girl with a former model identified only as Nia. There's no sign of legal trouble between the parents, and sources say they're on good terms and not romantically linked. Since it doesn't involve an ambulance dispatch or a court filing, I'm honestly scratching my head as to how TMZ found out about this.

While Brown is said to be "happy about being a father," the same can't be said for his on-again, off-again girlfriend, Karrueche Tran, who took to Twitter to officially dump him following the

The business of baby names

Maybe for his next child, Chris Brown might want to consider the services of a company that helps parents come up with unique monikers, à la Blue Ivy and North West.

- A Swiss company called Erfolgswelle vows to create a brand-new first name — for US\$31,000.
- CEO and owner Marc

Hauser said the process works similar to trademark naming with around 100 hours devoted to its creation and research.

- "I think it's very difficult to create a really fitting name, a name that fits to your family's background, to your cultural background," Hauser said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

news. "Listen. One can only take so much. The best of luck to Chris and

his family," she wrote. "No baby drama for me." Good thinking.

Rogen's pot proclivities push Pascal's patience

Amy Pascal must seriously be losing patience with Seth Rogen at this point. After that whole business with The Interview and the hacking and her losing her job and all, he's now inadvertently making it impossible for Pascal to move into her new office on the Sony lot.

According to the



Hollywood Reporter, Pascal is set to make a home for her new Sony-financed production company in the offices previously occupied by Rogen and writing partner Evan Goldberg, only the lingering stench of marijuana is so strong, it has seeped into the flooring and is prompting a full paint job. Seriously, Seth, you've never heard of a vaporizer?

Hilton pleads guilty to assault

Some trouble you can't just buy your way out of. Conrad Hilton — 21-year-old hotel-chain heir and younger brother of Paris — has agreed to plead guilty to an assault charge from his infamous tirade during a flight from London to L.A. last year, and he could be looking at up to six months in prison and a \$5,000 fine. Hilton's attorney, Robert Shapiro, said previously that Hilton's behaviour may have been "the effects of a sleeping pill" or some similar circumstance. According to an FBI affidavit, Hilton acknow-



Conrad Hilton and Kathy Hilton in 2008 THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ledged calling other passengers "peasants" and said he would have killed one flight attendant if another passenger had not calmed him during the 10-hour flight July 31. Hilton ignored instruc-

tions to keep his seatbelt on and paced in the aisle as the aircraft took off. When told to sit, he launched into a series of tirades that had some children in tears. He threatened to kill several flight attendants and a co-pilot and get them fired, the affidavit said. "I could get you all fired in five minutes," Hilton said in one of the document's quotes that didn't include an expletive. WITH FILES FROM CP

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A Bowie boom in fashion

Style. The runways are awash with references to the flamboyant glam-rock inspired fashions of the 1970s

Designers in Paris, London, New York and Milan have been sampling some of David Bowie's most iconic gender-less looks of late: from jumpsuits to Lurex, fantastically wide lapels, snazzy sequins, and mohawks.

Saint Laurent head designer Hedi Slimane, a long-standing Bowie fan, launched the trend seasons ago, and then last year Raf Simons kickstarted the Bowie revival when he unveiled his Spring 2015 Haute Couture collection for Christian Dior.

The Dior runway was replete with all-over sequined



onesies fit for Ziggy Stardust and outfits in psychedelic prints that would be at home



Gucci models channelled an androgynous, '70s pretty-boy look while sequined onesies were seen at Christian Dior. GETTY IMAGES AND AFP



Lyrics

"A small Jean Genie snuck off to the city. Strung out on lasers and slash-back blazers."

The Jean Genie as written by David Bowie

on any of Bowie's arty album sleeves.

At the Vivienne Westwood catwalk in London last month, models sported bright Bowie-style furry mohawks, while face paint was a key beauty look at both Westwood's show and that of British designer Gareth Pugh.

At Milan Fashion Week, Alessandro Michele channelled the androgynous '70s pretty-boy look as he sent male and female models down the catwalk for his debut F/W 15-16 collection for Gucci.

Selfridges of London is launching its in-store Agender project this month (launching online on March 12), which will feature unisex clothing, a gender-less window display, and art pieces that examine the concept of gender-neutral fashion.

This week, as the fourth and final leg of ready-to-wear week arrives in Paris, followers of the star's exuberant style (and those fortunate enough to be in France) have been able to enjoy a Bowie fashion fest off the catwalk at the David Bowie Is exhibition at the cool new Philharmonie de Paris music complex. AFP



Bowie-style mohawks and face paint were key runway beauty looks at recent fashion shows in London. IAN GAVAN/GETTY IMAGES

Trends Report online

Many top designers from Gucci to Dsquared2 paired their Milan Fashion Week collections with furry footwear. Go online to Trends Report and let us know what you think.

• **Online.** metronews.ca/trends-report

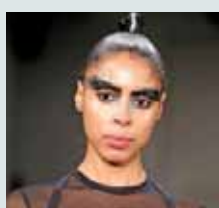
• **Follow Irene** on Twitter @MetrolreneK and Instagram @kuanirene

• **Photo gallery.** Model at Gucci runway show in Milan. (Getty Images)



Beauty without boundaries

Transgender models have taken the fashion world by storm, and more and more are appearing in high fashion magazines and on the runway **METRO NEW YORK**



Gisele Xtravaganza

Gisele Xtravaganza became the latest transgender model to grace the catwalks of New York Fashion Week.



Geena Rocero

After her brave coming out, Rocero walked the runway for Carmen Marc Valvo's Spring 2015 collection and created an organization called Gender Proud.



Andreja Pejic

Andreja Pejic isn't a newcomer to the fashion industry, but she changed her name to Andreja last year after completing her sex reassignment surgery.



Lea T

The Brazil-born beauty caught the eye of Givenchy designer Riccardo Tisci in 2010 and has served as his muse ever since. Lea T is also the face of Redken.

3
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Make your small space look bigger

Feeling cramped in your small space and need to redecorate? Here are five small-space decorating tricks you can use to make your place seem larger



DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

1. Keep colours and tones similar

Decorating with all light, all medium or all dark tones creates a visual flow that allows the eye to roam, giving the sense of a larger space. Keeping every decorating element similar will make your space feel much larger. Note: this is the trick designers use to make those tiny model suites feel larger.



ALL PHOTOS: CONTRIBUTED

2. Go vertical

Drapery panels, stacking art vertically on the walls, floor lamps, an étagère and even tall plants help to draw the eye upwards which is as important as guiding the eye around a room. Vittsjo Metal and Glass Étagère, \$50, Ikea.com



3. Add some sheen

Reflective surfaces like shiny countertops, stainless steel appliances, glass coffee tables and glossy paint will reflect light around the room. Dana Acrylic Writing Desk, \$2,000, Horchow.com

4. Allow one focal point per room

Best areas to zero in on: head of bed, bathroom mirror, television or console table in foyer. Have a boring living room? Try adding a double-duty fireplace/television stand as an attractive and useful focal point. Muskoka Durant Electric Media Mantel, \$930, Lowes.ca



5. Furnishings should do double-duty

Any investment furniture piece should provide at least two services, like a console table that acts as a desk, an ottoman with storage space, or a comfy dining chair that can be used as additional seating. A bed with built-in drawers helps to eliminate the need for a dresser. Universal's Spencer Storage Bed, \$2,200, TheBay.com



French techniques with a Mexican soul

Dinner. Braised Lamb Shanks with Poblano Peppers and Pinto Beans combines two cultures

Cookbook of the Week

More to Quebec than Poutine



The culinary treasure that is Quebec isn't as celebrated as it should be, and Julian Armstrong is out to change that with her book *Made in Quebec*.

Armstrong, a longtime food writer, has spent her career documenting the Quebecois food scene. The book is the result of those years and features stories of restaurateurs, farmers, artisanal cheese and bread makers, home cooks and more.

Among recipes included in *Made in Quebec* are Spiced Pork Spread, Roasted Vegetable Quiche, Skirt Steak with Gorgonzola Sauce, Roast Beef with Gravy and Chocolate Cranberry Cookies. **METRO**

"Quebec French cuisine 'with a Latin accent' is the specialty of Montreal chef David Ferguson, Ontario-raised and a graduate of the Stratford Chefs School," writes Julian Armstrong in *Made in Quebec*.

"Faithful to French culinary techniques at his midtown bistro, Restaurant Gus, David also adds flavours learned on his cooking sojourns in Mexico and New Mexico."

This Braised Lamb Shanks with Poblano Peppers and Pinto Beans recipe perfectly embodies that philosophy.

1. Preheat the oven to 300 F (150 C).

2. Finely chop 1 of the onions. In a 4-quart (4 L) heavy, stovetop-safe casserole dish with a lid, heat 2 tablespoons (30 ml) of the oil over medium-high heat and brown lamb on all sides. Remove to a plate. Reduce heat to medium and, in the same casserole dish, sauté carrot, chopped onion, garlic, and leek just until golden, about 5 minutes.

3. Add 1/2 cup (125 ml) of

the cold water to the pan and scrape up any brown bits. Return lamb to the casserole dish and add 5 cups (1.25 ml) cold water or enough to cover. Add thyme and ancho pepper. Bring mixture to a boil, then cover, transfer to the oven and roast for 1 hour and 45 minutes, until lamb is tender.

4. Remove lamb to a plate. Season the cooking liquid with salt and pepper. Discard ancho pepper. Simmer cooking liquid until it is reduced to about 3 cups (750 ml).

5. Meanwhile, cut remaining onion in half vertically, then slice finely. In a heavy frying pan, heat remaining 1 tablespoon (15 ml) oil over medium-high heat and cook onion until caramelized.

6. Return lamb to casserole dish. Add beans, tomatoes, caramelized onion, and poblano pepper. Reheat mixture and serve on deep, warmed serving plates.

RECIPES FROM MADE IN QUEBEC: A CULINARY JOURNEY BY JULIAN ARMSTRONG ©2014. PUBLISHED BY HARPERCOLLINS CANADA. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

Ingredients

- 2 large onions
- 3 tbsp (45 ml) olive oil
- 4 lamb shanks
- 1 medium carrot, peeled and sliced
- 4 cloves garlic, crushed
- 1 leek, white part only, chopped
- 5 1/2 cups (1.375 l) cold water
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) finely chopped fresh thyme or rosemary
- 1/2 ancho pepper, rehydrated
- Salt and freshly ground pepper
- 1 can (19 oz/540 ml) beans, preferably pinto or red kidney, drained and rinsed
- 4 Roma tomatoes, peeled and coarsely chopped, or 2 cups (500 ml) canned Italian tomatoes
- 1 poblano pepper, grilled, peeled, seeded, and cut in strips



This recipe serves four. RYAN SZULC

Smoked Salmon Tartare

1. Using a sharp knife, chop salmon finely. In a bowl, place salmon, dill, mandarins, lemon juice, capers, and oil. Mix and season with salt and pepper. Cover and refrigerate 2 hours.

2. Tartare may be spooned

onto 4 serving plates or packed into 4 moulds or ramekins (1/2 cup/125 ml each), then unmoulded onto the plates.

3. Trim plates with lemons and capers. Serve with baguette slices, toasted until crisp.

Ingredients

- 12 slices (250 g) cold-smoked salmon
- 2 sprigs fresh dill, chopped
- 2 peeled mandarin oranges or clementines, pith removed, in segments and chopped
- Juice of 1 lemon
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) capers, rinsed and patted dry
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) olive oil
- Salt and freshly ground pepper
- Lemon quarters
- Capers
- Baguette, to serve



This recipe serves four. RYAN SZULC

For your phone

Williams-Sonoma Recipe Of The Day (iPad; 1st month free/subscription)

Shopping lists, timers and a calendar are useful, but



MIND THE APP
Kris Abel
@RealKrisAbel
life@metronews.ca

more photos and detailed cooking instructions would help make this daily recipe subscription service worth buying after the first free month.



Not-so-fun facts about the common cold

Achoo! Did you know there are more than 100 viruses that cause the pesky sickness?

JACQUELINE KOVACS

For Metro

Do you feel like that annoying cold just keeps coming back? It's more likely that you are just getting new ones. According to the Mayo Clinic, there are more than 100 viruses that cause the common cold — and any combination of the accompanying runny nose, watery eyes, sneezing, coughing, sore throat and congestion.

That's just one not-so-fun fact about the common cold and flu. Read on for more.

The most common

And the winner is — the rhinovirus! It's the most common strain of cold people catch. It's to blame for your nose running like a tap. And given how versatile this virus is, you can eas-

ily catch one after another.

So much for the man cold

Guys may gripe more about their nagging coughs and congestion, but, on average, women get more colds than men. It is thought that this is because women tend to have more contact with children — who are total virus magnets — than men do.

Talk about staying power

Flu viruses can linger for up to two days on non-porous, hard surfaces and a full 12 hours on soft ones. At human body temperature, flu viruses can stay infectious for about a week. At the freezing point, they can stay infectious for more than 30 days and, below freezing, they can last indefinitely.

Your sneeze is loaded

Sneezing into a tissue or your elbow is more than just good manners — it's a major preventative action. A sneeze leaves your body at about 90 miles per hour, bringing with it virus-laden droplets that can reach people within 30



Share statistics instead of the virus. A sneeze projects virus-laden droplets within a 30-foot radius, so sneeze into your elbow or a tissue. SHUTTERSTOCK

feet of you. And, yes, sneezing on someone is a very effective way of giving them your cold.

It's in the stars

Why do we call that annual scourge "influenza?" It comes

from the Italian word influenza. Back in the day, it seems people blamed the influence

of the moon, stars and planets for the flu's nasty and widespread influence.



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PHC-13942

Mooseheads pick up game after teammate goes down

QMJHL. Scary hit on forward Crossley helps Herd find motivation

PHILIP CROUCHER
philip.croucher@metronews.ca

The theme quickly became apparent for the Halifax Mooseheads — win this one for Crossley.

After watching Brett Crossley lay motionless on the ice for close to 10 minutes early in the second period — the rookie forward had been pushed from behind into the sideboards — the Mooseheads brought up the energy level and played some inspired hockey the rest of the way.

The end result was a 7-4 victory over the Bathurst Titan at the Scotiabank Centre, and a victory for No. 16.

“That was a scary moment. Nobody wants to see that happen to anyone,” said Mooseheads forward Andrew Shewfelt of the situation involving Crossley. “We saw that and put a little more emotion into our game and battled back.”

“We wanted to win it for him.”

Elijah Francis of the Titan was the culprit of the hit from behind.

The play saw Francis receive a five-minute major for charging and a game misconduct.

A crowd of 6,086 fans at the Scotiabank Centre looked on in silence as trainers attended to the 17-year-old Crossley, who was eventually carried off on a stretcher.

Mooseheads general manager Cam Russell said before the second period ended that Crossley was able to move his extremities and was being examined by team doctors.



Bathurst Titan forward Andrew Ryan, a former member of the Halifax Mooseheads, looks to deke out Herd netminder Kevin Resop, during second-period action at the Scotiabank Centre on Wednesday night. MONA GHIZ/FOR METRO

On Wednesday

7

Mooseheads

4

Titan

game's third star after a two-goal, one assist performance.

“But I think that really helped us in the long run. We got a little bit more motivated after that and it showed.”

That was certainly the case in the third period, when the Mooseheads scored four times to erase a 4-3 deficit through 40 minutes.

Leading the way offensively for Halifax was the team's top line of Moynihan, Nikolas Ehlers and Timo Meier, which combined for 11 points.

Moynihan was thrust into top-line duties with both Philippe Gadoury and Maxime Fortier out with injuries.

Quoted

“The third period I thought we came out and played our game. I thought that made the difference.”

Mooseheads forward Danny Moynihan

“I think we play really well together, we kind of click,” Moynihan said.

“Every time we play together we put up points, so I like it.”

Ehlers was the game's first star after recording a goal and four assists. Shewfelt, Meier, Ryan Falkenham and Samuel Hunter had the other goals. The marker by Hunter broke

a 4-4 tie and was his first-ever QMJHL goal.

Former Mooseheads forward Andrew Ryan had a goal and three assists to lead the way for Bathurst.

The Mooseheads are back in action on home ice Friday night against the Charlotte-Town Islanders. Halifax needs just one more point to clinch a playoff berth.

Sportsnet, TVA to broadcast World Cup of Hockey in Canada



NHL commissioner Gary Bettman
ETHAN MILLER/GETTY IMAGES

Sportsnet and TVA are staying with the NHL to broadcast the 2016 World Cup of Hockey in Canada, and ESPN is getting back together with the league to show the event in the United States.

The NHL and NHL Players' Association on Wednesday announced that league partners Sportsnet and TVA were awarded Canadian media rights to the upcoming tournament,

Big money

\$100M

The event is expected to generate more than \$100 million in revenue, which will be split 50/50 between the league and players.

again beating out TSN and RDS. In the U.S., where the NHL has an ongoing deal with NBC

Sports, ESPN won out to show the World Cup, its first foray back into professional hockey since 2004.

The 2016 World Cup of Hockey, a joint venture of the NHL and NHLPA, will take place Sept. 17 to Oct. 16 at Toronto's Air Canada Centre.

There was some thought Bell and TSN would push for the event, and Bell made a bid before Rogers was award-

ed the rights.

“Both parties were interested,” commissioner Gary Bettman. “I would describe the negotiations as competitive. But on balance as we sorted it out, we thought the right answer for us in Canada was to be with Rogers.”

Bettman said though Rogers is the current NHL rights holder it did not get the right to match other bids. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

4 SPORTS

Hard-to-beat Hammond earns Sens win

NHL. Rookie goalie's 35 saves help Ottawa shoot down Jets

Rookie goaltender Andrew Hammond made 35 saves and Kyle Turris had a goal and assist as the Ottawa Senators upset the Winnipeg Jets 3-1 Wednesday.

Bobby Ryan and Erik Con-

dra also found the back of the net for Ottawa (28-23-11), which was coming off a 3-2 shootout loss the night before in Minnesota. The Senators are now 6-0-1 in their last seven games and battling for a playoff spot. Their 67 points puts them four points out of a wild-card spot in the Eastern Conference.

Michael Frolik was the only Winnipeg player to beat Hammond early in the third period

after the Sens had mounted a 3-0 lead. Hammond, who is 6-0-1 since his first start Feb. 18, was starting his seventh straight game because Craig Anderson is still injured.

Michael Hutchinson got the nod for his fifth straight start for Winnipeg (32-21-12) but was replaced by Ondrej Pavelec in the second period after Condra's goal made it 3-0 Sens.

Hutchinson had stopped

14 of the 17 shots he faced. Pavelec only had to stop three shots in relief. Winnipeg defenceman Dustin Byfuglien also left the ice after Condra's goal and didn't return because of what the team called an upper-body injury. He appeared to be favouring his right arm during Condra's scoring play. The loss ended a four-game homestand for the Jets (2-1-1).

THE CANADIAN PRESS



The Ottawa Senators' Bobby Ryan and Alex Chiasson celebrate Ryan's goal against the Winnipeg Jets. THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB

A-Rod back after drug suspension

Alex Rodriguez returned to the New York Yankees after an absence of more than 17 months, lining a single into short left field in his first at-bat and going 1 for 2 with a walk in a 3-1 spring-training loss to the Philadelphia Phillies on Wednesday.

He was greeted by a 10-second mix of boos and cheers from the crowd of 9,673 as he stepped into the batter's box for his first game following a one-year drug suspension.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

Allen to remain free agent for now

Ray Allen might return to the NBA — just not this season.

The league's all-time leading 3-point shooter who played for two NBA championship clubs announced Wednesday that he decided not to sign with any franchise for the remainder of this season, although he left the door open for a possible return in 2015-16. "I've ultimately decided that I will not play this NBA season," Allen said in a statement.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Cavs power past Raptors

Raptors centre Jonas Valanciunas fouls the Cavaliers' LeBron James at the Air Canada Centre in Toronto on Wednesday night. James scored a game-high 29 points and added 14 assists in a 120-112 win for Cleveland. Valanciunas and Lou Williams led the Raptors with 26 points apiece. FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS



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AUGMENTED REALITY

Stuck on 12 Across?
**Scan this image with your
Metro News app for today's
crossword and Sudoku answers.**
It's OK. No one's watching.



Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries

March 21 - April 20

Today's full moon suggests you won't be thinking straight, especially about matters related to your work and wellbeing. Don't take doubts too seriously.

♉ Taurus

April 21 - May 21

Chances are you will totally and utterly disagree with the advice you are given today. Maybe it is a load of nonsense — but what if it isn't?

♊ Gemini

May 22 - June 21

The planets warn you are expecting too much of yourself and must adjust your ambitions to a more practical level. Don't get uptight if a friend tells you something you don't want to hear.

♋ Cancer

June 22 - July 23

Don't waste precious time and energy on petty arguments today because you should be channeling everything you have got in productive directions.

♌ Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

Today's full moon suggests you may have to cut back financially, most likely because you have bitten off more than you can chew.

♍ Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

Stick with the facts today. The planets warn if you embellish the truth in any way, you will be found out.

♎ Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

Try not to provoke any arguments or showdowns today, because while the moon is full you are unlikely to be on the winning side.

♏ Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

Something you have always taken for granted will be held up to the light of the full moon and shown to be less substantial than you imagined.

♐ Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

Listen to what others have to tell you today but don't think you are obliged to do what they suggest. You are advised to hold off making a major move while the moon is full.

♑ Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

You will find it hard to make up your mind as to what it is you should be doing today. The planets indicate there is no need to rush.

♒ Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

You may have some amazing ideas running through your head at the moment but don't be too eager to do anything with them.

♓ Pisces

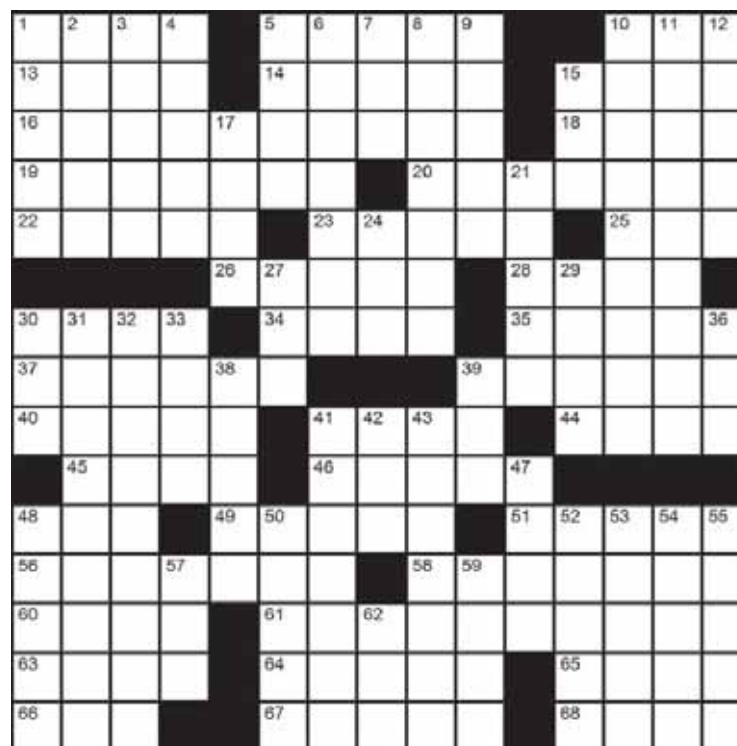
Feb. 20 - March 20

You have big plans, but have you thought them through properly? Today's full moon in your opposite sign suggests you may have missed something of importance.

Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan

Across

1. Spell-starting sound
5. Culinary figures
10. 'The Minister of Everything': Politician/businessman Mr. Howe, et al. (b.1886 - d.1960)
13. It's what's 'proper' in grammar class
14. "___ en Rose" by Edith Piaf
15. Go to buy things
16. Kinross = Canadian ___ company
18. Enamored
19. Sporting taboo, ___ use
20. Pointer Sisters hit: "___ Dance"
22. Flung
23. Custom-___ homes
25. Brunch offering
26. Actor, ___ William Scott
28. Footnote abbr.
30. Secretary's 'swift', shortly
34. Excited
35. More slack
37. Height measurement units
39. Non-laced running shoes fastener
40. Erin of "Happy Days"
41. "My Friend ___" ('50s sitcom)
44. Upcoming annual film/music/interactive festival in Austin, Texas
45. Exhausted



46. Mike of "Shrek the Third" (2007)
48. Egyptian cobra
49. Hiked, as prices
51. Jeweller's measurement, variantly
56. Even less sincere
58. Mimic
60. Prince Charles' sport

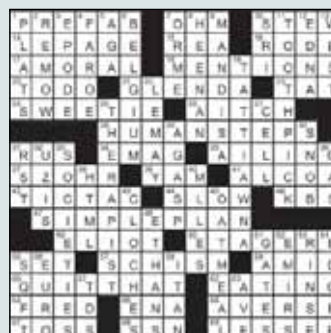
61. Newfoundland body of water, ___ Bay
63. Petals-not-pearls pieces
64. Tweety-like
65. Fails to be
66. Winding shape
67. Toronto-headquartered fashion company, ___ Bella

- (See #6-Down for more!)
68. Spelled-out marks
1. Uneasy feeling
2. County fair stall
3. Pencil case item
4. Canadian defence-man Mr. Benoit on the Buffalo Sabres

5. Old Rome's 152
6. Vegan ___ (Main product by #67-Across)
7. Midianite royal
8. Caterpillar equipment dealer/support company based in Edmonton, ___ (Canada)

9. Jason of "How I Met Your Mother"
10. "Boom Clap" songstress: 2 wds.
11. Meaning-well folks
12. Big name in shapewear
15. Army gig, briefly
17. Cuts the blades
21. Handy
24. 108-card game
27. '___' in Embrun
29. Dances for Cinderella, in Paris
30. Toothpaste brand
31. Trekking-in-white-fluff gear
32. The Parthenon is located on the what in Athens?
33. Racehorse flick, "___ Lap" (1983)
36. Theatre ticket detail
38. Tedium
39. Alternate spelling, for short
41. Make better
42. Cereal grass
43. Thorough patient examination
47. Jump rope
48. Fruit selection
50. Butter ___ (Flavour for ice cream)
52. House's accessed-by-ladder spot
53. Heighten
54. Make amends
55. Rustic shelters
57. Headshakes
59. Ms. Suvari
62. Nada

Yesterday's Crossword



Online

See today's answers at
metronews.ca/answers



Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku



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